

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A process for preparing high-functionality highly branched polyureas which comprises reacting one or more ureas with one or more amines having at least two primary and/or secondary amino groups, at least one amine having at least three primary and/or secondary amino groups.

Claim 2 (Original): A process according to claim 1, wherein amines having two primary and/or secondary amino groups are reacted, these amines being selected from the group consisting of ethylenediamine, N alkylethylenediamine, propylenediamine, 2,2-dimethyl-1,3-propanediamine, N alkylpropylenediamine, butylenediamine, N-alkylbutylenediamine, pentanediamine, hexamethylenediamine, N-alkylhexamethylenediamine, heptanediamine, octanediamine, nonanediamine, decanediamine, dodecanediamine, hexadecanediamine, tolylenediamine, xylylenediamine, diaminodiphenylmethane, diaminodicyclohexylmethane, phenylenediamine, cyclohexylenediamine, bis(aminomethyl)cyclohexane, diaminodiphenyl sulfone, isophoronediamine, 2-butyl-2-ethyl-1,5-pentamethylenediamine, 2,2,4- or 2,4,4-trimethyl-1,6-hexamethylenediamine, 2 aminopropylcyclohexylamine, 3(4)-aminomethyl-1-methylcyclohexylamine, 1,4 diamino-4-methylpentane, amine-terminated polyoxyalkylene polyols and amine-terminated polytetramethylene glycols.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): process according to claim 1[[or 2]], wherein the at least one amine having at least three primary and/or secondary amino groups is selected from the group consisting of bis(aminoethyl)amine, bis(aminopropyl)amine, bis(aminobutyl)amine, bis(aminopentyl)amine, bis(aminohexyl)amine,

tris(aminoethyl)amine, tris(aminopropyl)amine, tris(aminoethyl)amine, trisaminohexane, 4-aminomethyl-1,8-octaenediamine, trisaminononane, N-(2-aminoethyl)propanediamine, N,N'-bis(3-aminopropyl)ethylenediamine, N,N'-bis(3-aminopropyl)butanediamine, N,N,N',N'-tetra(3-aminopropyl)ethylenediamine, N,N,N',N'-tetra(3-aminopropyl)butanediamine, melamine, oligomeric diaminodiphenylmethanes (polymer MDA), amine-terminated polyoxyalkylene polyols with a functionality of three or more, polyethyleneimines with a functionality of three or more or polypropyleneimines with a functionality of three or more.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A process according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 3, wherein the urea is selected from the group consisting of urea, thiourea, ethyleneurea, 1,2- or 1.3-propyleneurea, N,N'-diphenylurea, N,N'-ditolylurea, N,N'-dinaphthylurea, N-methyl-N'-phenylurea, N-ethyl-N'-phenylurea, N,N'-dibenzylurea, N,N'-dimethylurea, N,N'-diethylurea, N,N'-dipropylurea, N,N'-dibutylurea, N,N'-diisobutylurea, N,N'-dipentylurea, N,N'-dihexylurea, N,N'-diheptylurea, N,N'-dioctylurea, N,N'-didecylurea, N,N'-didodecylurea, carbonylbiscaprolactam, ethylenethiourea, propylenethiourea, N-methylthiourea, N-ethylthiourea, N-propylthiourea, N-butylthiourea, N-phenylthiourea, N-benzylthiourea, N,N'-dimethylthiourea, N,N'-diethylthiourea, N,N'-dipropylthiourea, N,N'-dibutylthiourea, N,N,N',N'-tetramethylthiourea, N,N,N',N'-tetraethylthiourea, thiocarbonyldiimidazole and thiocarbonylbiscaprolactam.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A process according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to [[4]], wherein an amine or an amine mixture having an average amine functionality of from 2.1 to 10 is reacted.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A process according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 5, wherein the reaction of the urea or ureas with the amine or amines takes place in a solvent.

Claim 7 (Original): A process according to claim 6, wherein the solvent is selected from the group consisting of decane, dodecane, benzene, toluene, chlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene, xylene, dimethylformamide, dimethylacetamide, and solvent naphtha.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A process according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 5, wherein the reaction takes place in the absence of an inert solvent.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): High-functionality highly branched polyureas preparable by the process according to ~~any one of claims~~ claim 1 to 8.

Claim 10 (Canceled).